

233 South Wacker Drive Suite 800 Chicago, Illinois 60606

312 454 0400 www.cmap.illinois.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: CMAP Transportation Committee

From: Todd Schmidt, CMAP Staff

Date: 11/8/2013

Re: Universe of Major Capital Projects Update

Major capital projects are large, regionally significant projects that add capacity to the region's transportation system through adding lanes to or extending an existing interstate highway, building a new expressway facility, or making comparable improvements to the transit system. Arterial improvements are not considered major capital projects, nor are bus facilities unless they run on a new, dedicated lane on an expressway. Per federal requirements, GO TO 2040, the metropolitan transportation plan for the 7-county Chicago region, is to be updated by October of 2014. Metropolitan regions are required to review and update their long range metropolitan transportation plans at least every four years if they are in air quality non-attainment areas, such as the CMAP region. This includes updating the list of fiscally constrained major capital projects identified in GO TO 2040.

At the September meeting of the Transportation Committee, CMAP staff presented an overview of the process for updating the major capital projects as part of the GO TO 2040 plan update project. Staff anticipates that both constrained and unconstrained projects will be evaluated and finalized by the April 2014 Transportation Committee meeting, to allow enough time for a draft plan to be released for public comment at the June 2014 meetings of the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee. Staff anticipates that the final plan will be adopted at the October 2014 meetings of the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee.

As described at the September committee meeting, staff spent the month of October reaching out to the project implementing agencies to discuss their plans for major capital project development. CMAP staff discussed major capital project plans with staff from the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), Metra, Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), Illinois Toll Highway Authority (Tollway), Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), and Pace Suburban Bus (Pace). Staff sent formal emails requesting meetings with each of the aforementioned agencies on October 3. Attached to each email was a document containing information on each of the major capital projects identified in GO TO 2040, including project description, current project status, and total project costs. In the case of projects identified as being implemented by multiple agencies, information was sent to

all agencies involved. CMAP staff requested that implementers update all project information by the end of October.

To inform the development of the menus of fiscally constrained and unconstrained Major Capital Projects for the GO TO 2040 Plan Update, CMAP staff also requested that project implementers provide as much of the cost information pertaining to each of their projects as possible. This included not only total project costs, but also all components of total costs that are relevant to the plan update project. Total costs are comprised of both construction cost and the annual expected operations and management cost after construction. Construction cost was defined as the sum of both reconstruction and new capacity cost. Reconstruction costs were defined all maintenance and modernization costs, including the amount of project cost categorized as maintenance and/or modernization associated with construction. New capacity costs include the amount of project cost used to add capacity. CMAP staff analysis of total cost figures submitted by implementing agencies informed these assumptions in GO TO 2040. For more information pertaining to cost estimates used in GO TO 2040 please visit: http://www.tinyurl.com/3xlzakh.

Finally, CMAP staff asked each implementing agency to indicate a priority preference for each project by proposing that CMAP a) move the project to another classification (either constrained or unconstrained) of major capital projects, b) keep the project classified as it was in GO TO 2040, or c) remove the project from consideration or evaluation altogether.

Following discussions, CMAP staff asked each implementing agency to submit any formal, written updates to each project summary by Friday, November 1. Staff is in the process of compiling and assessing the project information provided by the implementing agency for each major capital project. Staff will continue to work with the implementing agency to provide the most current project and cost information for the plan update. The final universe of major capital projects for consideration and evaluation for inclusion in the 2014 GO TO 2040 plan update will be presented at the January Transportation Committee meeting.

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion